

Remarks

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the Final Office Action mailed January 24, 2007, and are being filed concurrently with a REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

I. Summary of Examiner's Rejections

Prior to the Office Action mailed January 24, 2007, Claims 1-36 and 38 were pending in the Application. In the Office Action, Claims 1-6, 8-13, 15-20, 22-35 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hilbert et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0088570, hereinafter Hilbert '570). Claims 7, 14, 21, 36 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hilbert '570 in view of Godlin et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0161860, hereinafter Godlin).

II. Summary of Applicant's Amendment

The present Response amends Claims 1, 8, 15, 22, 26 and 32, leaving for the Examiner's present consideration Claims 1-36 and 38. Reconsideration of the Application, as amended, is respectfully requested. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to prosecute any originally presented or canceled claims in a continuing or future application.

III. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

In the Office Action mailed January 24, 2007, Claims 1-6, 8-13, 15-20, 22-35 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hilbert et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0088570, hereinafter Hilbert '570).

The present Response hereby submits affidavits under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132, signed by the inventors of the present Application No. 10/777,289, stating that the inventors listed on the present application have conceived and invented the subject matter claimed in the claims of the present application and the subject matter disclosed in the Hilbert '570 reference to the extent relied on in the rejections. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the U.S. Publication No. 2003/0088570 is not an invention "by another" and does not constitute proper prior art against the present Application.

Furthermore, the present Response also amends Claims 1, 8, 15, 22, 26 and 32 so as to more clearly define the embodiment therein. As amended, the claims now define the features of "logging into each of a plurality of file sources" and "a plurality of login data," both of which were cited in the Office Action as not having been recited in the claims (Office Action, page 9).

Applicant respectfully submits that, as amended, Claims 1, 8, 15, 22, 26 and 32 cannot be interpreted as proposed in the Office Action page 9, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims of the present application are neither anticipated by, nor obvious in view of the cited references, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

IV. Statement of Common Ownership

The present Application No. 10/777,289 and the cited U.S. Publication No. 2003/0088570 (Application No. 09/985,599) were, at the time the invention of Application 10/777,289 was made, commonly owned by, or subject to an obligation of assignment to Fuji Xerox Co., Ltd.

V. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In the Office Action mailed January 24, 2007, Claims 7, 14, 21, 36 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hilbert '570 in view of Godlin et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0161860, hereinafter Godlin).

Applicants submit herewith (see section IV above) a Statement of Common Ownership, stating that the present Application 10/777,289 and Publication No. 2003/0088570 (Application No. 09/985,599) were, at the time the invention of Application 10/777,289 was made, commonly owned by Fuji Xerox Co., Ltd., or were subject to an obligation of assignment to Fuji Xerox Co., Ltd.

As such, Applicant respectfully submits that the Hilbert '570 reference (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0088570) fails to constitute prior art and should be disqualified as such against Claims 7, 14, 21 and 36-37 under 35 U.S.C. 103(c).

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the subject patent application should be allowable, and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned if he can assist in any way in expediting issuance of a patent.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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